

PA 4-9200

THOMSEN'S FOR EXPERT ADVICE

# garden hints

4720 HIAWATHA, MINNEAPOLIS

Volume Two, Number 2; February, 1955

Thomsen's Nursery &amp; Seed Store

## ASTORIA GRASS: FOR THE PERFECT LAWN

Few people are familiar with the BENT GRASSES (Agrostis species). There are better than two dozen varieties belonging to this genus, all having different characteristics just as children in a family are not alike. Perhaps the most outstanding variety is the variety known as ASTORIA GRASS.

The Agrostis grasses are the aristocrats in lawn materials, superb in appearance and performance. Astoria Grass produces the finest textured turf known for lawn purposes. It is very permanent; many of these fine lawns in England are from 100 to 300 years old! It is self-multiplying, spreading by means of underground runners or stolons and rhizomes, constantly getting thicker. For this reason, the Astoria grass is able to choke out weeds.

The texture is remarkably fine, and the color ideal. Astoria is resistant to cold. It is fairly deep rooted and tolerant of dry conditions. It grows best in a mildly acid soil testing from 6.5 to 7.0 P.H.

The seed itself is outstanding. Since there are 8,000,000 to the pound, we need use only half the amount needed of Blue Grass. Germination is almost always above 98%, and under good conditions the seed germinates in a week--often in 4 or 5 days. The purity of the seed is above 99%, and there is rarely even a trace of weed seed.

We built an Astoria lawn for a customer in Minneapolis 10 years ago. He reports that he has not bought one single pound of grass seed since the lawn was started. For an ideal lawn, free of weeds and crab grass, easy to keep up, of outstanding appearance, we know of nothing better than our Astoria Bent.

Use 4 to 5 pounds of Thomsen's Certified Blue Ribbon Astoria Grass Seed per 1000 sq. ft. of new lawn. For rejuvenation of old turf use 2 to 3 pounds. Astoria may be used to thicken old lawns composed of blue grass or fescues.

Our 30 years experience proves it--early seeding is essential. Our finest lawns are seeded in March--just as soon as the snow is fairly well gone. Any frost after seeding is beneficial.

Top dress old lawns with one bale of certified horticultural peat moss per 1000 sq. ft., or, good loamy topdressing may be used. If you prefer not to keep increasing the height of the lawn with topdressing, we can treat the lawn with our VERTICUT machine. With this treatment, hundreds of short knives cut about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch into the turf, aerating the soil, helping to control fungus attacks and giving most of the benefits of topdressing.

You can purchase CERTIFIED lawn materials from us, or we are glad to give you an estimate on the complete lawn. Come in at any time to discuss your lawn problems.

Thomsen's Blue Ribbon Astoria Grass seed is grown in cool, moist Washington and Oregon, assuring outstanding quality and hardiness. Don't use poor bargain seed of any kind on your lawn--it is no economy. The best cost little more than the cheapest and here at Thomsen's, you get not only the seed but also excellent advice from experts to help you get the best results.

You can have the outstanding lawn in your neighborhood. Whether you start with Astoria or decide upon Blue Grass, get the seed in early--within the next few weeks. Use a good fertilizer, such as LOMA. You can mix a fungicide such as Terzan with it. If you have nightcrawlers or cut worms, use 8 pounds of arsenate of lead or 3 pounds of Chlordane per 1000 sq. ft. If your soil is hard clay, use 1 pound of Krilium soil conditioner per 100 sq. ft. to break it up.

I want to say a word about fungus attacks, which occur in hot, muggy weather. These are called "brown patch", "dollar spots", "snowmold", etc. Terzan, above, or Phenyl mercury acetate, are good fungicides--the latter also is used for crab grass control. Easily applied with the HOZON.



Please remember that PA4-9200 is the telephone number for advice and information on your lawn and garden problems. Whether you need a package of seed or an estimate on a complete landscaping job, you'll find Thomsen's helpful and cooperative. Why buy where you receive less than the best in materials and information?

Mail orders from our many out-of-town customers promptly filled and requests for advice answered. Yes, we are proud to serve gardeners throughout this north central area (and as far away as Hollywood).

Thomsen's specialize in landscape design. Bring or mail in a simple sketch of your property with the dimensions. We will be glad to show you several different landscaping treatments which will improve the appearance and value of your property, and which will give you a choice of materials and cost--- no charge anywhere in the Twin City area.

The March issue of Garden Hints will be delivered personally to most of our readers by a representative. We would like to visit you once a year to help determine your needs, and give you the best possible service. The March issue will contain a complete price list of certified garden materials.

PRICES OF LAWN MATERIALS, Spring, 1955  
(Subject to change without notice.)

Grass Seed

Thomsen Blue Ribbon Certified Astoria Seed			
1 pound	\$1.85	2 pounds	3.65
5 pounds	9.15	10 pounds	18.25
Thomsen Certified Kentucky Blue Grass Seed			
1 pound	1.75	2 pounds	3.45
5 pounds	8.00	10 pounds	15.75

Thomsen Merion Blue Grass, ask for prices.

Thomsen Certified Creeping Red Fescue Seed  
1 pound 1.25

Thomsen Top Quality Red Top Seed  
1 pound 1.50

Thomsen Perennial Rye Grass Seed 5 lb. 1.75

Thomsen White Dutch Clover, 1 pound 1.85

Thomsen Certified Blue Ribbon Lawn Seed  
Astoria, Blue Grass, Creeping Fescue, and Perennial Rye in well balanced mixture. Ideal for new and old lawns.  
1 pound 1.50      2 pounds 2.95  
3 pounds 4.40      5 pounds 7.35  
10 pounds 14.50      25 pounds 36.25

Krilium Soil Conditioner, 5 pounds 4.95

Arsenate of Lead, 4 lbs. 1.75      24 lbs 9.50

Terzan 75, to treat 2,000 sq. ft., 1.25

Chlordane 6% 4 lbs. 1.50; 5% dust 1 lb .75

50%, 5 lbs 5.65; 45%, 1 quart 3.25

Phenyl Mercury Acentate, 1 pint 2.20

Hozon Attachment for applying above 2.50

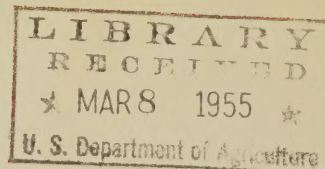
Thomsen's Certified Peat Moss, large bale, available in any quantity 6.00

Tuberous Begonias from Holland, Double, Should be started now in half peat moss, half soil. For shady spots. Mammoth tubers, six different colors.  
6 for 1.80; 12 for \$3.50

Finest Gladiolus Bulbs, Minnesota grown. Have obtained 50,000 of the finest mammoth bulbs we've ever offered, from a well known Minnesota grower. 10 different colors Plant at two week intervals for cut flowers all season.  
12 for 1.25; 60 for 5.40; 120 for 9.95  
180 for 14.95

# THOMSEN'S GARDEN HINTS

THOMSEN'S NURSERY AND SEED STORE  
4720 Hiawatha Avenue Minneapolis, Minnesota



Bulk Rate  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Minneapolis, Minn.  
Permit No. 1121

Library, U.S. Department of  
Agriculture  
Washington 25, D.C.

The March issue of GARDEN HINTS will be delivered personally in the Twin Cities by our representative.